



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yukio YAMAKAWA et al

For: POLYURETHANE ELASTIC FIBER NONWOVEN FABRIC AND ITS
PRODUCTION AND SYNTHETIC LEATHER USING THE SAME

Serial No.: 09/890 742

Group: 1771

Confirmation No.: 7745

Filed: September 24, 2001

Examiner: Befumo

International Application No.: PCT/JP00/00983

International Filing Date: February 21, 2000

Atty. Docket No.: Kanebo Case 6

Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

We, the undersigned, hereby declare as follows:

We are named co-inventors of the invention described and claimed in application Serial No. 09/890 742, filed on September 24, 2001.

We hereby incorporate by reference the contents of the Examples and Comparative Examples on pages 15-37 of the above-identified application.

We have prepared polyurethane elastic fiber nonwoven fabric according to Example 1 of JP09188951A and determined the mechanical properties thereof in the same manner as in the Examples and Comparative Examples of application Serial No. 09/890 742. The results are shown in the following Table.

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TABLE

Example 1 of JP09188951A	
Material	Polyurethane elastic fiber
Method of complex	Melt-blowing
Basis weight (g/m ²)	180
Tensile strength (gf/2cm/basis weight)	11
Tensile elongation (%)	685
Tear strength (gf/basis weight)	1.6
Recovery at 50% elongation (%)	-
Recovery at 100% elongation (%)	92
Stiffness (mm)	54

DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

As can be seen from the above Table, the polyurethane elastic fiber nonwoven fabric of JP09188951A has a tear strength much lower than the lower limit of 5.5 gf required for the polyurethane elastic fiber nonwoven fabric of the present invention.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Dated: Aug. 11, 2003

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